



Climate change and health in South East Asia

Author(s): Kumaresan J, Narain JP, Sathiakumar N
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Abstract:

Purpose - The purpose of this paper is to illustrate the public health and societal implications of climate change in South East Asia, and create a framework for planning national and regional responses. **Design/methodology/approach** - The paper elaborates on the adverse consequences of climate change in South East Asia, the current efforts taken by the regional countries, the current barriers to deal with the problems and presents a framework for planning responses. **Findings** - The consequences of climate change from a public health perspective, as well as from an economic, political and resource security standpoint, for South East Asia can be disastrous. Consequently, there is an urgent need to plan national and regional level measures for climate change mitigation and develop comprehensive plans in response to the current and projected climate-related health risks. **Practical implications** - The paper attempts to provide a detailed framework for addressing the health-related risks of climate change, in such a manner that it can be followed by all countries of the region. **Originality/value** - South East Asia could face disastrous public health consequences due to climate change. A detailed framework for mitigating climate change effects in the context of public health has been suggested, focusing on strengthening the evidence base to aid climate change policy, advancing knowledge and training to mitigate climate change, implementing adaptation measures, greenhouse gas reduction and developing collaborative work. Following the framework could yield substantial benefits for the South East Asian countries.

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Resource Description

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Indoor Environment, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution, Nutritional Quality

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

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Desert, Mountain, Ocean/Coastal

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Region

Other Asian Region: Southeast Asia

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cancer, Cardiovascular Effect, Diabetes/Obesity, Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Cholera, General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Other Diarrheal Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: Dengue, General Mosquito-borne Disease, Malaria

Zoonotic Disease: Other Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease (other): Plague

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Mood Disorder

Respiratory Effect: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Lung Cancer

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

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Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status

Other Vulnerable Population: Women; Low access to health services

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content